

Grammar L4GLO7

Relative Clauses

Learning Outcome 7: Relative clauses

NOTICING A Read the sentences. Answer the questions below.

1. The man who helped me is a firefighter.
2. Cameron, whose team came first in the competition, is very ambitious.
3. The place where I would most like to be right now is home!
4. The job that I applied for was given to another candidate.
5. My next-door neighbor, who is an old man, goes for a walk every day.
6. The Arabic version of the text, which I could understand, was better than the other version.

1. Write the correct numbers. In which sentences do the underlined words give information ...

- a. that is essential for understanding the sentence? ____ , ____ , ____
- b. that isn't essential for understanding the sentence? ____ , ____ , ____

2. What differences do you notice in how you write these two types of information in sentences?

Relative Clauses

Relative clauses are parts of sentences that give information about people (*who*), things (*that* or *which*) or places (*where*). You can also use *whose* at the start of a relative clause to show that something belongs to a person or someone is related to a person.

Some relative clauses give information that is essential for understanding the meaning of a sentence; these are called defining relative clauses. You don't use commas before or after these relative clauses.

Other relative clauses give information that is not essential for understanding the meaning of a sentence; these are called non-defining relative clauses. They never start with *that* and you use a comma before and after these relative clauses.

B Use the words in parentheses to complete the sentences with a relative clause.

1. You need to ask the woman _____ .
(standing by the door)
2. Our English teacher _____ .
(from the USA / loves baseball)
3. My friend Maryam _____ .
(bag I'm borrowing / likes dolphins)
4. This blue ball _____ .
(we found on the tennis court / is Ali's)
5. The dictionaries _____ .
(I need / are on that shelf)
6. The small town _____ .
(Heba lives / has a very old market)

C Work in groups. Follow the steps below to play a game of *Who/What/Where Am I?*

1. Each player chooses ...
 - a. a well-known person.
 - b. an everyday object.
 - c. a place the other players will know.
2. Each player writes a sentence with a relative clause describing each person, thing or place, but doesn't show it to the other players. Don't include the names of the people/things/places, e.g.
I'm a person who plays football for ...
I'm a thing that you use to ...
I'm a place where there are
3. The players in each group take turns reading their sentences aloud and guessing what they describe.
